

Amendment and Response
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REMARKS

Each of the claims require that the permeable facemask have an arca for filtering air which is interior to said periphery. The Torres 128 reference does not have a filter interior to the periphery and thus requires that all of the air taken into the chamber come through the gasket. The portion 12 of the goggles of Torres does not the filter air being exhaled. On inhaling the arca which is interior to the periphery allows for air to pass through and be filtered lowering the pressure drop across the gasket so very little air passes therethrough contrary to Torres. Thus, Torres does not solve the problem which the claimed invention does which is to lower the pressure drop at the interface between the face and a filtering face masked but does just the opposite. The claims are structurally different from Torres and produce an unexpected result form Torres or any other structure in the prior art. All of the other claims are dependant on either of Claims 1 or 9 and therefore contain the same limitations.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

Applicants believe that no fees are necessitated by the present Amendment. However, in the event that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0923.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite allowance of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted for Applicant,

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